GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:496
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
INDIAN EXPORTS
Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Nayak Shri Ananta

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in the export to European countries;

(b) reasons thereof and measures taken to enhance the export to European countries;

(c) names of the countries spices are exported, country-wise details;

(d) whether export of spices has declined during 2003-04 and 2004-05; and

(e) if so, reasons therefor and measures taken to increase exports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) There has been no overall decline in exports to European countries. Nevertheless, Government of India facilitates the Indian industry to carry out among others, market studies, participation in trade fairs etc to enhance exports to this region.

(c) Major destinations for Indian spices in Europe include:

Country	Spice exports in 2003-04(Rs./Crores)
UK	126.03
Germany	104.29
France	47.45
Netherlands	44.62
Spain	30.99
Italy	19.30
Belgium	16.86

(d) While there was a marginal decline in export of spices to Europe in 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03, no decline in export of spices was noticed during April-October,2004 compared to the same period of last year.

(e) The major reason for decline in export of spices to Europe is the emergence of low cost origins such as Vietnam, which has reduced the competitiveness of Indian spices. Measures taken to increase spice exports inter-alia include mandatory sampling, strengthening quality evaluation laboratory, integrated pest management, value addition, product diversification, etc.